

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 404

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TAGS:OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT:PRESS MATERIAL

FOR ANDERSON FROM KING

MADRID FOR MCCLOSKEY FROM S/PRS

1. BOB SCHIEFFER - CBS RADIO, FIRST LINE REPORT:

ABOUT THIS TIME LAST WEEK PRESIDENT NIXON WAS PREPARING FOR WHAT PRESS SECRETARY ZIEGLER WAS CALLING SUMMIT III. IT IS ALL OVER NOW, THE DUST IS SETTLED, WE WILL HAVE SOME THOUGHTS. WHEN THE MOSCOW SUMMIT ENDED LAST WEEK AND IT BECAME OBVIOUS A SIGNIFICANT AGREEMENT ON ARMS CONTROL WAS NOT TO BE SECRETARY KISSINGER OFFERED THIS OBSERVATION: "BOTH SIDES HAVE TO CONVINCE THEIR MILITARY ESTABLISHMENTS OF THE BENEFITS OF RESTRAINT" HE SAID AND THAT DOES NOT COME EASILY FOR EITHER SIDE.

KISSINGER'S OBSERVATIONS MAY WELL APPLY TO THE SOVIET UNION WHERE THE MILITARY APPARENTLY EXERCISES SOME VETO POWER IN CERTAIN AREAS; JUST HOW IT APPLIES IN THE U.S.

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WITH ITS LONG TRADITION OF CIVILIAN CONTROL OVER THE

MILITARY IS AT BEST OPEN TO QUESTION. IN THE AMERICAN SCHEME OF GOVERNMENT THE MILITARY HOLDS NO VETO OVER FOREIGN POLICY AND NEVER HAS. THE MILITARY IS NOT THERE TO BE CONVINCED, IT IS THERE TO GIVE ADVICE IN ITS AREA OF EXPERTISE. IF THE ADVICE IS ANYTHING LESS THAN CANDID IT IS WORTHLESS. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CIVILIAN LEADERSHIP TO MAKE POLICY AND IN SO DOING IT MUST CONSIDER THE MILITARY'S ADVICE BUT IT IS BY NO MEANS BOUND BY IT. WHEN THE MILITARY IS TOLD ON OCCASION TO GO "BUG OFF", OF COURSE THE CIVILIAN LEADERSHIP MUST BE PREPARED TO DEFEND ITS ACTIONS, BECAUSE THE ARGUMENT IS CERTAINLY TO BE SETTLED IN POLITICAL DEBATE. AS THE CIVILIAN LEADERSHIP KNOWS SO WELL IT MUST WIN MOST OF THE ARGUMENTS LIKE THAT OR THE COUNTRY WILL FIND NEW CIVILIAN LEADERS. WHAT COMPLICATES THINGS FOR THIS ADMINISTRATION IS THAT THE WHITE HOUSE HAS BEEN SO WEAKENED BY WATERGATE IT IS IN NO POSITION TO ARGUE WITH ANYONE; THAT CAN HARDLY BE BLAMED ON THE MILITARY. DURING THE RECENT SUMMIT THE PRESIDENT HAD TO NEGOTIATE WHILE KEEPING ONE EYE ON HIS OWN SURVIVAL AND THE ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT THAT DID NOT HAVE THE ADVANCE APPROVAL OF THE MILITARY WAS CERTAINLY TO RAISE QUESTIONS IN THE MINDS OF CERTAIN CONSERVATIVE REPUBLICANS IN THE SENATE, THE BLOC THAT WILL BE THE SWING VOTE ON WHETHER MR. NIXON REMAINS IN OFFICE, IF INDEED THE IMPEACHMENT ISSUE EVER REACHES THE SENATE FLOOR. ALL OF THAT WAS KNOWN TO THE RUSSIANS AND MAY WELL BE THE REASON THE SOVIETS DID NOT SEEM ALL THAT INTERESTED IN SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS THIS TIME AROUND. ANOTHER FACTOR MUST ALSO BE CONSIDERED, THE SOVIET UNION HAS JUST SPENT AN ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF MONEY TO DEVELOP THE SO-CALLED MIRVS WHICH CAN BE CLUSTERED ON ONE MISSILE AND THEN DIRECTED TO A SERIES OF SEPARATE TARGETS. U.S. MASTERED THE TECHNIQUE AND DEPLOYED THOUSANDS OF MIRVS YEARS AGO. THE SOVIETS HAVE JUST MASTERED IT AND ARE ON THE THRESHOLD OF DEPLOYMENT NOW. THE DIFFERENCE IN MIRV AND THE OLD WARHEADS IS THE DIFFERENCE IN THE OLD BYPLANES AND THE NEW SUPERSONIC TRANSPORTS. IT SEEMS FAR FETCHED TO ASSUME THAT THE RUSSIANS WOULD HAVE SPENT ALL THAT MONEY TO DEVELOP MIRVS AND THEN NOT DEPLOY IT IN SIZEABLE NUMBERS. IT SEEMS EVEN MORE FAR FETCHED WHEN THE U.S. HOLDS SUCH A BIG EDGE

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IN THE FIELD. IT MAY BE THAT THE SOVIETS DID NOT WANT AN ARMS AGREEMENT JUST NOW FOR A VERY SIMPLE REASON; THEY DIDN'T SEE IT AS BEING IN THEIR NATIONAL INTEREST. IT MAY BE THAT THEY WANT TO CATCH UP BEFORE THEY SLOW UP. FOR WHATEVER THEIR REASONS IF WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT THE SOVIET ARMS LIMITATION PROPOSALS IS CORRECT THEY MADE NO REAL EFFORT TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT AT GENEVA EARLIER THIS YEAR ONE OF OUR NEGOTIATORS DESCRIBED THE RUSSIAN PROPOSALS AS

SORT OF LIKE THE FIRST PRICE THAT A PERSIAN RUG MERCHANT QUOTES WHEN YOU INQUIRE ABOUT HIS MERCHANDISE. APPARENTLY THIS SITUATION DID NOT IMPROVE MUCH WHEN KISSINGER WENT TO MOSCOW IN MARCH TO LOOK FOR A CONCEPTUAL BREAK-THROUGH ON ARMS CONTROL AND THINGS SEEMED ABOUT THE SAME LAST

WEEK WHEN PRESIDENT NIXON WENT TO MOSCOW. IN VIEW OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS THEN, IT IS DIFFICULT TO TAKE KISSINGER SERIOUSLY WHEN HE IMPLIES THAT THE FAILURE TO REACH AN ACCORD IS SOMEHOW THE FAULT OF THE MILITARY. THERE ARE ANY NUMBER OF THINGS THAT CAN BE BLAMED ON THE PENTAGON THESE DAYS BUT THE FAILURE TO GET AN ARMS AGREEMENT IN MOSCOW DOES NOT SEEM TO BE ONE OF THEM.

2. MARVIN KALB - CBS RADIO FROM LONDON:

KISSINGER ARRIVED AND QUICKLY BEGAN A BUSY DAY OF TALKS WITH BRITISH LEADERS, FS CALLAHAN FIRST, PM WILSON SECOND THEN OPPOSITION LEADERS THORPE AND HEATH. THE SECRETARY IN ADDITION TO TALKING ABOUT THE MOSCOW SUMMIT WANTS TO TALK ABOUT INCREASED ECONOMICAL OPERATION AMONG THE WEST EUROPEAN ALLIES. THAT IS A SUBJECT DEAR TO CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S HEART, KISSINGER HAS JUST ARRIVED FROM WEST GERMANY AND AT THE MOMENT IT VITALLY AFFECTS ITALY WHICH IS GOING THROUGH ITS WORST ECONOMIC CRISIS SINCE WW II. ECONOMICS IS NOT THE SECRETARY'S FAVORITE SUBJECT BUT HE RECOGNIZES ITS IMPORTANCE AND URGENCY, A MAJOR FACTOR IN THE RISING INFLATION THROUGHOUT EUROPE IS THE HIGH COST OF IMPORTED CRUDE OIL. KISSINGER IS ANXIOUS TO COORDINATE WESTERN POLICY ON THIS SUBJECT AND TRY TO PERSUADE EXPORTING ARAB COUNTRIES TO LOWER THEIR PRICES. TOMORROW KISSINGER GOES ON TO SPAIN AND LATE IN THE AFTER-EVENING RETURNS TO WASHINGTON, WHERE WATERGATE AND NOT UNCLASSIFIED

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DIPLOMACY CONTINUES TO DOMINATE THE NEWS.

3. PAUL MOORE -CBS RADIO FROM BERLIN:

SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER HAS WOUND UP THE GERMAN PART OF HIS GRAND TOUR AND CONTINUES HIS ITINERARY TODAY TO LONDON. AFTER ATTENDING THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SOCCER MATCH IN MUNICH KISSINGER CONFERRED WITH WG CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT. AFTER THE MEETING A WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID SCHMIDT AND KISSINGER BOTH REGARDED AS POSSIBLE TO SOLVE THE REMAINING PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH THE EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE AND TO WIND UP SUCH A CONFERENCE BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR; PERHAPS, WITH A SUMMIT MEETING. KISSINGER DECLARED IN MUNICH THAT THE U.S. AND WEST GERMANY DEFEND THE SAME VALUES AND SHARE

THE SAME INTERESTS. HE ALSO MET WITH WEST BERLIN'S MAYOR
AND GAVE HIM PARTICULAR ASSURANCE OF FRIENDLY FEELINGS
TOWARDS THIS CITY.

4. BARBARA WALTERS - NBC TV TODAY SHOW:

BARBARA WALTERS INTERVIEWED COLSON WHO, AMONG OTHER
THINGS BRIEFLY PRAISED BOTH KISSINGER AND SCHLESINGER
MAKING NO CHARGES OR DEROGATORY COMMENTS ON EITHER. ...

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